The People's Korea

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President Sihanouk Makes Significant Trip to Pyongyang

Amid reports on on-going bitter fightings in Cambodia, President Sihanouk flew into Pyongyang on Jan. 10 to strengthen ties with the Government of the DPRK on a secrecy-shrouded visit.

The purpose of the trip was not disclosed.

President Kim Il Sung is a long-time ally of the leader of Democratic Kampuchea and recognizes his government.

Significantly for the first time, no texts were made available of the speeches the DPRK and Kampuchean presidents made in a banquet on Jan. 11 arranged in hounor of the visitor.

During the Kampuchean President's last visits to the DPRK, both leaders allowed their speeches to be published. In their speeches they expressed support for each other's policy – rather diplomatic and symbolic rituals. The news blockout on the details of the talks and the speeches may imply the urgency with which presidents Kim Il Sung and Norodom Sihanouk viewed the developments, one diplomatic observer here commented.

The unusual secrecy of the talks may be in consideration of rapidly-changing situation and the diplomatic position of the DPRK.

The official Korean Central News Agency described the talks as "held in a warm and friendly atmosphere."

Observers here speculate the two leaders had made an in-depth analysis of the situation and discussed matters of mutual concern.

President Kim Il Sung on January 11 had a talk with President Norodom Sihanouk. (KCNA Radiophoto)

Talks were held on Jan. 11 in Pyongyang between President Kim Il Sung and President Norodom Sihanouk.

Meanwhile, President Kim Il Sung Jan. 1 received Mr. Shin Sang Ok, President of the Shin Film Studio, on visit to the homeland.

President Kim Il Sung congratulated them on their remarkable successes in the production of films such as the feature films "Emissary Unreturned" and "Desertion" and encouraged them in the energetic efforts to produce more of good films conducive to the prosperity of the homeland and the development of national culture.

He conversed with them in a compatriotic and cordial atmosphere.

We Want No Team Spirit: Vice-Premier Kim

A DPRK vice-Premier stressed it was all up to the south Korean side whether the N-S economic talks would be held or not.

Mr. Kim Hwan on Jan. 16 issued a talk, as the south Korean side refused his proposal for a vice-Premier-level contact. (See the text of his talk on page 2)

The vice-Premier said, "We consider that if the United States and south Korean side give up the plan for the provocative military rehearsal (10-week "Team Spirit '85", involving more than 200,000 military personnel) against us, the other party to dialogue, or stop it, it will occasion the resumption of north-south dialogue."

The vice-Premier, citing the south Korean side of crisis-management talks, observed it became absolutely impossible to hold the second round of N-S economic talks on January 17 as scheduled.

Mr. Kim, however, renewed a willingness to hold the proposed vice-Premier-level meeting at any time.

EP Mulls Trade with Pyongyang

The European Parliament has initiated a formal study of prospects for opening trade relations with Pyongyang in hopes of exporting precision engineering equipment and chemical products to the DPRK, according to a report of Far Eastern Economic Review dated January 17.

The report said that "the study will explore the possibilities of countertrade for north Korean cement, nonferrous metals, magnesia clinker and rice."

Though member countries of the European Economic Community except Denmark have no diplomatic relations with Pyongyang, the situation will be changed when Portugal, which has diplomatic relations with Pyongyang, joins the EEC in January 1986.

The EEC consists of the following 10 countries: France, West Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, England, Denmark, Ireland and Greece.

Earlier, the French Campenon Bernard Construction Co. contracted to build a 50-story hotel in Pyongyang for Franco-Korean joint management, with a certain French airline proposing to create a joint venture.

The joint venture hotel agreement preceded the Dec. 15 French government decision to upgrade the DPRK's trade mission in Paris to the status of "general delegation" – a quasi-diplomatic representative.

Pyongyang Establishes Dip. Ties with Ivory Coast

PYONGYANG January 10 (KCNA)

A joint communique on opening diplomatic relations between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Ivory Coast was made public on January 9.

The communique reads:

Out of the desire to strengthen friendship and develop cooperation between the peoples of the two countries on the basis of the principles of equality, national sovereignty, mutual respect for the choise of political and economic systems and territorial-integrity, and non-interference in other's internal affairs, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Government of the Republic of Ivory Coast decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level.

The communique was drawn up in New York on October 9, 1984.

The communique was signed by Foreign Minister Kim Yong Nam on behalf of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and by Foreign Minister Simeon Ake on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Ivory Coast.

The Republic of Ivory Coast

Head of State:
President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.
Area:
322, 462, sq. km.
Population:
7,898,000 (1980)
Capital city:
Abidjan, population: 1,800,000 (1983)
Length of coastline:
475km
Official language:
French

Amnesty Int'l Report on Human Rights Violations

Amnesty International in its latest annual report expressed concern "about the detention of prisoners of conscience, reports of torture and unfair trials and the use of the death penalty" in south Korea. (See page 8)

The London-based human rights body, in a recently published "Amnesty International Report 1984", said: "Amnesty International was also concerned about widespread arrests of students and the use of short-term detention without charge and house arrest against students and other critics of the government."

The report argues that torture continued to take place in south Korea and confessions said to have been obtained under torture were used as prosecution evidence.

The report places on record the concerns of Amnesty International in over 110 countries.

Editorial

Team Spirit 85 Should Be Called Off

A spokesman for the U.S.-south Korea Combined Forces Command (CFC) announced on January 4 that the United States and south Korea would stage a joint military exercise codenamed "Team Spirit 85" from February 1 through mid-April.

Team Spirit 85, the 10th of its kind, will involve 200,000 American and south Korean military personnel. American forces from overseas, including an aircraft carrier battle group, will join members of the 40,000-strong U.S. forces stationed in south Korea, the CFC spkesman told a press conference in Seoul.

The Team Spirit military exercises are clearly directed against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) which called a series of exercises "test nuclear wars" and "preliminary wars."

It is clear to everyone that the planned Team Spirit 85 joint military exercise will pose a grave threat to peace in Korea and aggravate the explosive situation on the Korean Peninsula.

The exercise which is expanding year by year runs counter to the serious efforts being made by the DPRK for a negotiated settlement of the reunification question.

The peace-loving forces the world over, codemning Team Spirit 85 as a direct threat to peace in the Far East, call upon Washington and Seoul to call off the provocative military exercise.

In January last year, the DPRK proposed to have talks with the United States and south Korea to discuss tension-reducing measures.

The September epoch-making step to send relief goods to south Korean flood victims created an atmosphere of contact and dialogue between north and south Korea. After all, Pyongyang's overture opened the door for the first north-south economic talks and for resumption of the long-stalled Red Cross talks.

The November 23 shooting incident at Panmunjom reminded the world of a tension-packed situation on the Korean Peninsula.

But, both sides agreed to hold a second economic meeting in Panmunjom on January 17 and Red Cross talks in Seoul on January 23.

To undertake a joint military exercise on such a large scale (Team Spirit is billed as the largest military exercise in the Western world) that is obviously directed against Pyongyang at a time when a dialogue between the two parts of Korea has started to move forward, is difficult to understand.

Washington and Seoul call the forthcoming joint military exercise "a routine and annual exercise" which was planned long time ago.

If they take the slighest interest in peace in Korea and in the relaxation of tension in that part of Asia, they should put off Team Spirit 85 which is aimed at attacking the DPRK, a partner in the dialogue.

The south Korean authorities invited the DPRK to send a team to observe the joint military exercise. It is ridiculous to invite a partner in the dialogue to observe military exercises aimed at killing the partner in the middle of the dialogue.

Washington and Seoul should treasure the atmosphere of contact and dialogue between north and south Korea created on the Korean Peninsula and accept the three-way talks proposal to discuss measures for reduction of tensions on the peninsula and for creation of favourable conditions for north-south reunification.

Chairman Ho Dam Endorses New Proposal for N-S High-Level Political Talks

Ho Dam, Chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland who is member of the Political Bureau, and Secretary, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, issued a talk on January 10 in support of the reasonable proposal for accelerating the independent and peaceful reunification of the country made by President Kim Il Sung in his New Year address.

Noting that President Kim Il Sung reiterated the firm stand of the Workers' Party of Korea and the DPRK Government on the tripartite talks and north-south talks and made a new proposal for gradually developing the north-south dialogue onto high-level political talks, Chairman Ho Dam fully supported it in the name of the entire people desirous of peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification.

He further said:

President Kim Il Sung clarified the stand to make strenuous, patient efforts to realize tripartite talks. This is based on the demand of the tense situation prevailing in our country and the experience in the north-south dialogue last year.

President Kim Il Sung's reiteration of the need to effect the tripartite talks in his New Year address is an expression of the honest and sincere efforts made by our party and the government of the DPRK to seek a peaceful solution of the Korean question through dialogues and negotiations.

In the New Year address he made a new overture for developing the dialogue between the north and south onto high-level political talks, thus opening up a new epochal phase in the efforts for peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification.

High-level political talks between the north and south would make it possible to improve the north-south relations and smoothly solve various problems, complicated and difficult, in the way of national reunification in conformity with the noble idea of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity.

Therefore, it is necessary to successfully hold the north-south talks already arranged and, at the same time, to effect wide-ranging negotiations and develop them onto high-level political talks between the north and south.

In the New Year address President Kim Il Sung underscored the need to hold tripartite talks and push ahead the north-south dialogue as well. This is the most reasonable and realistic way for peace in our country and its peaceful reunification and the most just nation-saving proposition which fully accords with the desire of our nation and the demand of the era.

It is imperative for the accomplishment of the cause of national reunification above all to hold tripartite talks at an early date and develop the north-south dialogue.

The United States and south Korean authorities must accept our fair proposal for tripartite talks as early as possible and refrain from doing anything obstructive to the progress of the north-south dialogue.

At a time when we are making efforts for the peaceful solution of the Korean question through dialogues and negotiations the United States and south Korean authorities have decided to stage the "Team Spirit 85" joint military exercises, largest in history, against us with armed forces over 200,000 strong. This is an insult to our proposal for peaceful negotiation and a challenge to dialogue and peace.

In view of the situation where they persist in war exercises beclouding the atmosphere of dialogue and keying up the tensions, we proposed a contact between vice-premiers of the north and south in order to tide over the difficulties in the way of the north-south talks on economic affairs. This is a very timely just measure. It is only too natural for us to have postponed the eighth round of the Red Cross talks.

If the United States and south Korean authorities are truly interested in dialogue and peace they should give up the provocative "Team Spirit 85" plan and discontinue action aggravating the tension.

Vice Premier Kim Hwan Wants To Meet S. Korean Vice Premier Sin Byong Hyon

Kim Hwan, vice-Premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, issued the following talk January 16, as the south Korean side refused the DPRK's proposal for contact between vice-premiers:

As is known, I sent a telephone message to the south Korean deputy prime minister on January 9, proposing to meet with him before January 17 with a view to removing the obstacles standing in the way of the second round of north-south economic talks since the United States and the south Korean side announced the plan for the provocative "Team Spirit 85" joint military exercises, making it impossible to hold the talks as scheduled.

This was out of the wish to remove the obstacles in the way of the immediate economic talks and advance the well begun economic talks smoothly on all accounts.

I, therefore, believed the south Korean side would express understanding to our proposal and approach it affirmatively. And it was my view that there would be no reason for it to refuse our proposal for contact between vice-premiers as it calls for even summit talks.

But, the south Korean side in its reply dated January 10 refused our proposal without any justifiable ground or reason.

I can hardly understand why the south Korean side turned down our proposal for discussing measures to save the dialogue at stake while paying lip service to dialogue, and cannot but express deep regret at this attitude.

In its reply, the south Korean side declined to accept our proposal intended to save the hard-won north-south economic talks and, on the contrary, tried hard to justify the unjustifiable "Team Spirit 85" joint military exercises it is going to stage with the United States.

I think that if the south Korean side had national conscience even a little, it should have felt ashamed of mentioning a military action to be undertaken in collusion with outside forces against the fellow countrymen and should not have made poor excuses for justifying the provocative military rehearsal contradictory to peaceful dialogue and negotiation.

As regards our January 9 proposal, public opinion at home and abroad views as understandable north Korea's assertion that the "Team Spirit 85" is something throwing a wet blanket over dialogue and considers it desirable for the United States and Seoul authorities to refrain from military exercises. This proves that with nothing can the south Korean side justify its wrong stand.

Through the two conflicting telephone messages exchanged between the vice-premiers of north and south Korea this time, the world people have come to clearly know who truly wants dialogue and who does not, who is sincere for economic talks and who is not in our country.

The situation where the south Korean side made it difficult to hold the economic talks on the fixed date and has refused to come out to the talks aimed at removing the obstacles has rendered it absolutely impossible to hold the second round of north-south economic talks on January 17.

The south Korean side should hold the double responsibility before the entire nation for having laid hurdles in the way of economic talks by planning the "Team Spirit 85" joint military exercises obstructive to dialogue and for having made it impossible to hold the economic talks by refusing our reasonable proposal for contact between vice-premiers aimed at removing the obstacles.

When the second round of north-south economic talks will be held depends entirely on the south Korean side's attitude.

The south Korean side should save the time.

If the south Korean side expresses its willingness to come out to the contact between vice-premiers even tomorrow from a sincere position to save the economic talks, we will welcome it and sit together with the south Korean side with pleasure.

The United States must not kick up such aggressive war rackets as the "Team Spirit 85" increasing the danger of war in our country and making it impossible to hold dialogue between north and south Korea, which it is going to stage while paying lip service to peace on the Korean Peninsula and north-south dialogue.

We consider that if the United States and the south Korean side give up the plan for the provocative military rehearsal against us, the other party to dialogue, or stop it, it will occasion the resumption of north-south dialogue.

Agricultural Workers Gather in Pyongyang to Discuss Ways and Means to Hit 15 Mil. Tons of Grain

A national agricultural congress was held at the Pyongyang Indoor Stadium from Jan. 3 to 6 in the presence of President Kim Il Sung.

It was a historical congress which once again powerfully demonstrated the superiority of Korea's socialist rural economic system and the correctness of the agricultural policy of the party and the vitality of the Juche method of farming and open an occasion of a new turn in Korean people's struggle for attaining the 15 million ton target of grain set by the Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea ahead of time by summing up the brilliant successes and experiences achieved in agricultural production last year under the wise guidance of the party and discussing the tasks facing agriculture this year.

Attending the congress are management officials, workteam heads and model farmers of agricultural cooperatives all over the country, secretaries of ri party committees, Three-Revolution Team members dispatched to the rural districts, leading officials of state-run agricultural enterprises and factories and enterprises serving agriculture, leading officials of central, provincial, city and country party and power bodies and agricultural guidance organs, agro-scientists and officials of central organs, more than 15,000 in all.

So Gwan Hi, Secretary of the WPK Central Committee, made an opening address.

Li Jong Ok, Member of the Political Bureau of the CC of the WPK and vice-President, conveyed the congratulatory message from the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea to the national agricultural congress at the congress.

Kim Chang Ju, vice-Premier of the Administration Council and Chairman of the Agricultural Commission, delivered a report at the congress.

A letter of pledge was adopted at the congress.

So Gwan Hi, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, made a closing address.

Report of Vice Premier Kim Chang Ju

Kim Chang Ju, vice-Premier of the Administration Council and Chairman of the Agricultural Commission, delivered a report at the national agricultural congress.

Follows a gist of his report:

The current national agricultural congress is a historic one which will powerfully demonstrate once again the advantages of our socialist rural economic system, the correctness of our party's agricultural policy and the vitality of the Juche method of farming and occasion a new turn in the struggle for attaining ahead of time the 15 million ton goal of grain production set forth at the Sixth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea by summing up the successes and experiences gained in last year's farming and discussing taks facing agriculture this year.

According to the report, since President Kim Il Sung personally grasped and directed the agricultural front in 1973, our agriculture has constantly grown at a high tempo thanks to the thorough application of the Juche method of farming despite the persistent influence of the cold front. As a result, a shining success was finally registered last year in producing 10 million tons of grain for the first time in the history of our agriculture.

The rich harvest we reaped last year made it possible for us to open a bright prospect for attaining the 15 million ton goal of grain production in the near future.

Last year we took compatriotic and humanitarian measures to send a large amount of relief goods including 50,000 sok of rice to compatriots in south Korea who suffered serious flood damages due to the anti-popular policy of the Chon Du Hwan group.

The realisation of these measures was an event of particular significance rice produced in the north was delivered to the south Korean people as provisions for the first time in our country's history. It was an auspicious event of the nation which made an important contribution to the cause of national reunification.

Last year an increasing number of counties and farms produced respectively more than 100,000 tons of grain and over 10,000 tons.

The per hectare grain production in the cultivated land reached a higher level last year in our country which came first in this production in the world already in 1979.

A big innovation was effected above all in rice production, with the result that the number of cooperative and state farms which produced over 8 tons of rice from each hectare increased.

And many cooperative and state farms raised per hectare maize yield to over 8 tons.

Big successes were achieved in vegetable cultivation, stockbreeding and fruit growing, too.

This year we must lay solid foundations for attaining the 15 million ton goal of grain production envisaged in the ten long-range objectives of socialist economic construction and more powerfully demonstrate the might of the Juche method of farming.

While increasing grain production, we must further boost the output of vegetables, industrial crops and fruits, develop stockbreeding and supply a larger quantity of vegetables, fruits, meat and eggs to the people.

In order to successfully carry out the tasks facing the rural economy this year, it is important to do farming in a scientific and technical way by fully meeting the requirements of the Juche method of farming.

This year we must properly distribute crops and their variety in conformity with the features of each region and each plot and the biological characteristics of crops on the principle of the right crop on the right soil and the right crop at the right time as required by the Juche method of farming and establish a scientific manuring system.

We must also increase the fertility of land by planting green manure crops in the paddy and non-paddy fields and manuring land with a large amount of good quality compost and mineral fertilizers.

All the functionaries and working people in agriculture must actively tap export resources including agricultural and indigenous products to overfulfil their export assignments monthly and quarterly and in all indices in wholehearted response to the party's militant call "production is export and vice versa".

What is important in successfully fulfilling the tasks facing the rural economy this year is to vigorously launch the movement for reclaiming tideland and obtaining new land and thus thoroughly implement the party's decisions and instructions for increasing the area of cultivated land.

At the same time, the technical revolution should be accelerated in the countryside to bring about a new turn in the comprehensive mechanization and the chemicalization of agriculture.

It is imperative for the vigorous acceleration of the technical revolution in the countryside to increase state investments in the rural economy and further strengthen its material and technical foundations.

Rodong Sinmun Stresses Need to Hold 3-Way Talks

Papers in Pyongyang on January 10 called for an early realization of tripartite talks in editorials dedicated to the first anniversary of the DPRK proposal for tripartite talks.

If the U.S. administration and south Korean authorities truly want to see the relaxation of tension on the Korean Peninsula and are interested in peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification, they must correct their stance and attitude even now and respond to our fair proposal for tripartite talks, noted Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK).

It said:

Our proposal for DPRK-U.S.-south Korea tripartite talks reflects the desire and aspiration of the time and the nation. But, it has not yet been realized because the other parties have not responded to this.

The U.S. and south Korean authorities try to replace our proposal for tripartite talks with "north-south talks." North-South talks are not enough to solve the problems of removing the danger of war in Korea, ensuring peace and substantially creating favorable conditions for independent and peaceful reunification.

Only tripartite talks can solve the problem of replacing the armistice agreement with a peace agreement between the DPRK and the United States and the problem of adopting a non-aggression declaration between the north and the south and terminating the arms race and military confrontation.

The only way of easing the tension in our country and promoting the national reunification is to hold tripartite talks involving the DPRK, the United States holding the prerogative of military command in south Korea and the south Korean side responsible for the increase of the tension.

The U.S. and south Korean authorities answer our peace proposal with "policy of strength," fighting shy of tripartite talks.

A few days ago, they announced the plan of holding the unprecedented-in-scope "Team Spirit 85" joint military exercises against us with the mobilization of over 200,000 strong forces.

What they seek in Korea is the line of aggression and war, not detente and peace.

If they persist in the line of confrontation and war, ignoring the desire of the people for peace and peaceful reunification, they will have to be held fully responsible for all consequent thereupon.

It is high time the U.S. and the south Korean side pondered over the proposal for tripartite talks and made clear their stand. We will continue to strenuously work with patience to realize tripartite talks.

Korea Produces 10 Mil. Tons of Grain Last Year

The DPRK produced ten million tons of grain last year. This is a proud success previously unknown in the history of Korean agriculture.

A high yield was reported from all parts, in plain and mountainous areas, last year. Many counties including Yonan and Sinchon counties, South Hwanghae Province, Hwangju county, North Hwanghae Province, and Sukchon county, South Pyongan Province, in plain areas on the west coast produced over 100,000 tons of grain each and the Ryongrim Cooperative Farm in Mundok county, the Kwangchon Cooperative Farm in Sukchon county, South Pyongan Province, and many other farms harvested more than 10,000 tons each.

Notably, the Yoldusamchon Cooperative Farm in Sukchon county, and the Pungjong Cooperative Farm in Chungsan county, South Pyongan Province, turned out upwards of 15,000 tons each.

As a result, the number of the counties which produced more than 100,000 tons and that of the farms which harvested above 10,000 tons increased.

The per hectare yield of grain rose.

A large number of cooperative farms including the Chilgol and Mangyongdae cooperative farms in Mangyongdae district, Pyongyang, and the Pukji Cooperative Farm in Chaeryong county, South Hwanghae Province, gathered in over 8 tons from each hectare of paddy field.

Quite a few cooperative farms and state farms reported over 8 tons of maize per hectare last year. The per hectare harvest of maize reached 10 or 11 tons on a number of cooperative farms including the Samsok Cooperative Farm in Samsok district, Pyongyang and the Taechu Cooperative Farm in Anak county, South Hwanghae Province. The income share of the farmers also grew considerably.

The Chilli Cooperative Farm in Sukchon county, South Pyongan Province, distributed 10.4 tons of grain on an average to each household and the Mangyongdae Cooperative Farm in Mangyongdae district, Pyongyang, above 6,100 won in cash to each household. Much more grain and cash than the previous year went to each household on all other cooperative farms.

Farming Preparations Under Way

The agricultural working people of Korea reaped last year 10 million tons of grain. They are making brisk preparations for this year's farming, determined to bring about another bumper crop this year.

According to data available from the agricultural commission, the quota for the production of manure has been met at 84 percent, that of humus soil at 87 percent and the plan to store water in reservoirs at 90 percent taking the country as a whole.

Necessary manure and other materials for this year's farming have almost been secured in South Pyongan, South Hwanghae, South Hamgyong, North Hamgyong and Kangwon provinces.

The farming preparations are making more rapid progress thanks to the powerful assistance of industrial establishments across the country.

Many districts and counties in Pyongyang for example produced a large number of small farm implements, farming materials and manure and sent them to the cooperative farms in its suburbs.

Pyongchon district supplied more than 20,000 small farm implements and farm materials in over 30 kinds and over 350 tons of manure and Mangyongdae district more than 5,800 small farm implements and over 1,000 tons of manure to nearby farms.

Rodong Sinmun on Japanese SDF Expansion

PYONGYANG January 13 (KCNA) – In an article headlined "Military Forces for Overseas Expansion" Rodong Sinmun on Jan. 13 said: Japan's preparations for overseas dispatch of her military forces for the first time since her surrender suggest the dangerous nature of the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" which have grown to be forces of aggression.

Noting that now the "Self-Defence Forces" of Japan have become a regular army capable of prosecuting a war and that they come ninth in the world in their total equipment, the organ of the CC of the WPK said:

The plan for the purchase of new-type weapons for the next fiscal year made public by the Japanese Defence Agency includes 26 missile launching pads, 18 "F 15" fighter planes, 11 "P 3C" anti-submarine patrol craft and 3 destroyers.

As can be seen, the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" are zealously reinforcing their equipment for offensive war. When Japan finishes her sixth arms buildup plan (1986-1990), the military equipment of the "Self-Defence Forces" will reportedly reach the level of conducting military operations single-handedly in the 1,000 miles operation sphere.

The aggressive nature of the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" is shown in their growing role in the Japan-U.S. joint operations.

The United States attaches great importance to Japan's military role in the Asian-Pacific area and tries to make Japan its agent.

Japan which is obsessed with overseas expansion is actively complying with the demand of the United States.

Thus, Japan changed her old "strategy specially for defence" into a "strategy" for striking first at all factors which may possibly attack Japan and taking charge of "defending sea routes" up to 1,000 miles off Japanese shore.

After all, Japan is holding a sword instead of a shield.

Proceeding from this military strategy the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" are establishing an operation system to hurl their three services into an actual war and intensifying military exercises to commensurate with this.

They also plan to continuously stage military rehearsals to carry on Japan-U.S. joint operations.

Facts show that the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" are now becoming forces of aggression like the old Imperial Army.

Pyongyang Raps Washington-Tokyo Joint War Game

Upon an announcement of the fact that the American "Green Berets" special unit will stage "winter military exercises" and the U.S. Marine Corps and Japanese Ground Self-Defence Forces "U.S.-Japan joint winter exercises" in Hokkaido from mid-February, (U.S.-south Korea joint war game Team Spirit 85 is planned to start from the beginning of February), Pyongyang Sinmum said on Jan. 12 that these war rehearsals aim at an aggressive war in Northeast Asia, especially on the Korean Peninsula.

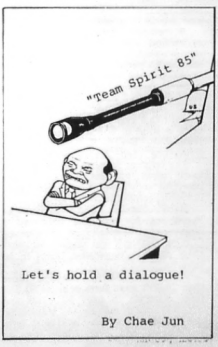
The paper noted that the scheduled war exercises in Hokkaido are a provocation projected under the Washington-Tokyo joint operational plan.

The author of the commentary said, "It is not accidental that these war exercises are timed to coincide with the U.S.-south Korea joint military exercise "Team Spirit 85."

"These war rehearsals are, as a matter of fact, a preliminary war for triangular joint operations between Washington, Tokyo and Seoul which are linked into one," the paper said.

It further said, "That show that although they are paying lip-service to 'peace' and 'disarmament talks', they, in actuality, are increasing tension and stepping up war manoeuvres."

U.S. Marine Corps in action for firing exercise of M198-type 155mm cannon capable of shooting nuclear shells in Hokkaido during the U.S. Japan joint exercise in October, 1984. (Photo from the Hokkaido Shimbun dated Oct. 22)



S. Korean Christian Org. Calls for Betterment of Workers

The Japanese magazine "Monthly Report on South Korean Economic Survey" carried a statement issued by the Catholic Committee for Justice and Peace of South Korea in demand of the annulment of the vicious labour laws.

The statement said that the Chon Du Hwan junta's labour policy serves the purpose of "augmenting the political power" and "strictly sealing up the activities for the defence of workers' rights.

It demanded that the present labour laws grossly violating them be abolished.

It pointed out, "The workers should be provided with working conditions so they may live as human beings.

"The present labour standard laws crudely encroaches upon the rights of independent solidarity, collective bargaining and action of the workers and throws a stumbling block in their way of defending and enjoying their dignity and basic rights."

The statement demanded the guarantee of the workers' right of unity including the formation of an independent labour unions.

Repression of Dissident Figures

The south Korea's "Public Procurator's Office" on January 12 issued an order to the prosecutors all over south Korea to "strictly control" the personages involved in the Council for the Promotion of Democracy in an attempt to suppress the opposition figures who rose up against the next "general elections" slated for mid-February, according to a radio report from Seoul.

The procurator's office threatened them with "criminal punishment", while branding their struggle against the "elections" as "an illegal action."

Green Berets to Be Hurled into Team Spirit 85

The U.S. is planning to hurl its ill-famed special unit "Green Berets" into the provocative Team Spirit 85 war game slated for the beginning of February.

The spokesman of the U.S. Army Command in Japan was quoted by a Japanese leading daily, Mainich Shimbun in its Jan. 10th issue as saying that a battalion of "Green Berets" deployed in Okinawa would be airlifted to the scene of the projected "Team Spirit 85" war rehearsal.

The American special unit "Green Berets" are known to have been engaged in subersion and sabotages in every region of the world.

Their participation in the Team Spirit war game will further reveal its aggressive and provocative nature on the Korean Peninsula.

American special unit "Green Berets" soldiers being under training at a mountain in northern part of Okinawa, Japan. (Photo from the Ryuku Shimbun)

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U.S. Deploys Backpack Nukes in S. Korea

The U.S. deployed special nuclear munition shipped into south Korea at a unit of its armed forces stationed in Ujongbu, Kyonggi Province, U.S. Radio NBC reported quoting a radio report in Seoul.

This backpack nuke weighing about 30 kg each can reportedly be carried on the back of "commandos."

That newly developed sophisticated weapons have been successively deployed in south Korea further accelerates tensions on the Korean Peninsula in time with the yearly expanding Washington-Seoul joint war game "Team Spirit 85."

BRIEF NEWS FROM S. KOREA

SNU Students Wage 147 Anti- "Gov." Demos. in 1984

Students of Seoul National University staged 147 cases of anti-"government" demonstration during the last one year, according to a radio report from Seoul.

Last year 238 students were expelled or disciplined from the university on charges of violating the "law on assembly and demonstration".

The students demanded in the demonstrations democratization of society against the dictatorship.

Inchon Workers Wage Sit-In

Workers of 10 companies in Inchon, south Korea, on January 14 staged a sit-down strike at the headquarters of the "Democratic Korea Party," a south Korean opposition party, in Youido, Seoul, according to a Kyodo report from Seoul.

Calling for a stop to the unreasonable dismissal of workers and the revision of the reactionary "labor relations act," they urged the president of the party to strive to push this demand.

Workers had staged a sit-down at the headquarters of this party in demand of a wage hike and an end to the suppression of trade unions in November last year, said the report.

Anti-Communist Education To Be Intensified

The Chon junta decided to set up a "training centre" of youth and children in Tobong Hill, Tobong District, Seoul, according to the south Korean paper Hanguk Ilbo.

It reportedly planed to complete by April the construction of the "training centre" which will accomodate more than 200 people at a time.

Students of universities and colleges, middle and high schools and even primary school children have to attend every year to the "training centres" in various places in south Korea and are educated with hostile feelings against the DPRK.

As the anti-fascist spirit for democracy and for national reunification is growing among the south Korean students and children, the junta of Gen. Chon set up more tools such as "training centres", getting overheated with anti-communist military education, in a bid to crush their desire.

Another Police Station Installed

Another police station was installed in Kwangmyong, Kyonggi Province, in December last year, according to the south Korean paper Kyongin Ilbo.

The south Korean authorities spent 1,303 million won in establishing it.

Uneasy about the yearly growing anti-"government" action of the people, the Chon junta is setting up new police stations and booths this year with a plan to increase the police force by 17,200 men.

Growing Possibility Chon Will Drop His Oath to Quit in 1988: Kim Dae Jung

— Interview with Japanese Weekly —

The Japanese weekly magazine Asahi Journal in its Jan. 18, 1985 issue carried an interview with Kim Dae Jung, ex-presidential candidate now in exile in the U.S.

He said he would return home from the United States at the end of January even though he knew he might be imprisoned.

Earlier, Kim Dae Jung said he was aware that the south Korean junta of Gen. Chon had told Sen. Kennedy it would imprison him if he returned.

"But this will not change my intention to return home," he stressed when asked by an interviewer of the Asahi Shimbun on Nov. 23, last year.

The following are excerpts from the Jan. 18 interview.

(Quotations are ours . . Ed.)

Q: What is the reason you are determined to return home even though you know you might be imprisoned?

A: I have stayed in the United States for two years. During this period I'm convinced that I have given certain influence to leaders of the Reagan Administration and public opinion there.

A number of mass media took up my issue and remarks and I was privileged to give lectures in many places of the United States nearly 100 times.

I had contacts with various human rights groups here and gained support from them.

However, it is a pity that I could not change the American foreign policy toward south Korea even though I did my best.

Of course, a certain progress can be seen in the problem, but I could not bring about a fundamental change in the policy toward south Korea.

Therefore, I judged there is no need to stay here any longer.

Another reason is that I want to share pains with our people, particularly with students and workers who are waging courageous struggles against heavy odds.

I also want to encourage the silent majority in south Korea to rise up (for democracy there).

In Japan, these silent majority can change your country through elections.

However, that is next to impossible in our country where free elections are not guaranteed.

Therefore, even though many people regard the present "regime" as not good, they can not take a concrete action.

More serious is that students have recently tended to take radical means out of despair.

I sent to south Korea a message in which I stipulated three conditions – great unity among democratic forces, Gandhi style non-violent struggle and moderation.

Q: On the moves to form a new party with Kim Yong Sam at its head prior to the "general elections" slated for mid-February?

A: I'd like to briefly comment on the political situation in south Korea. A political ban was lift on 84 politicians on Nov. 30 last year as the third of the series, though 15 others are still kept on the blacklist.

This is virtually aimed at "three Kims" – Kim Yong Sam, Kim Jong Pil and me, Kim Dae Jung.

In other words, this is nothing but Chon Du Hwan's self-confession that he can not maintain his power if he lift the political ban on "three Kims."

The upcoming "elections" are very important for not only for the people but "elections" of south Korea as such.

In view of the way of preparations are being made for the "elections", there is a growing possibility that Chon Du Hwan will drop his open oath to quit in 1988 when his "presidential term" expires.

He seems to be plotting to make his family members elected by force in the next "elections" with an idea of forming his bodyguards in the "national assembly."

If Chon truly think of quitting president, there would be no need to do so.

Therefore, I think that there will be a growing possibility of a "constitutional revision" in 1985.

The opposition parties, which originally should have been in a position to check the Chon "regime", have played too ugly political tricks with It, to be precise, they have colluded with the "government."

There is a saying in our country – "The intervening mother-in-law is more hateful than the beating husband."

This vividly expresses the sentiments of the south Korean people toward the opposition parties.

When I was inquired of about the New Korea Democratic Party by the Council for Promoting Democratization (CPD – Chairman Kim Yong Sam, Advisor Kim Dae Jung), I pointed out three conditions.

Firstly, I declared that the CPD as a dissident organization should oppose participation in the "elections", an act amounting to the recognition of the present political system.

Secondly, even in case of joining "elections" for convenience's sake, the situation is different from that in the Philippines.

That is to say, in case of the Philippines, opposition parties are allowed to exist as they originally are, local self-governing bodies are well functioning.

Although the Marcos "regime" is criticized as the dictatorship, demonstrations are permitted with freedom of assembly as well as free elections guaranteed.

However, even individual speeches are not permitted in our country.

Furthermore, even the president of an opposition party is not allowed to make a speech to cheer its authorized candidate of the party.

Can you find such reckless "elections" in other countries?

On the other hand, the "government" officials have turned into a mass "election tools for machines" in an "elections campaign" as the "government" rules every public organization.

Thirdly, politicians are pugilists by nature, so there is no sense is trying to intervene in bickers in the "national assembly".

I raised these three principles in connection with the upcoming "elections."

However, in view of the domestic moves since then, you can understand how tremendous repercussion and expectation of the new party have been as well as how deep-running distrust and dissatisfaction with the present "government" is.

I declared these three principles in connection with the upcoming "elections."

However, I can not properly judge unless I make first-hand look at the situation in south Korea.

The south Korean people have their traditional tenacity with which they have continued to make resistence, watching a chance under no matter how difficult and hard conditions.

There is a possibility that such resistance may erupt once again in the next "elections."

Q: On the next "elections", which we think, decide the destiny of south Korea in its latter half of the 80s.

A: What I want you not to fail to pay attention to is not how many seats the new party can get but how overtly the ruling "Democratic Justice Party" will commit irregularities in the "elections."

More precisely, the question is how much we can reveal the weak point of the "government" and the ruling "DJP."

South Korean politics is such that many people inside the "government" serve the dictatorship against their own will, while feeling pangs of conscience.

Because the people are carefully and severely watching them.

Not a few people who had served the former ruling "Democratic Republican Party" have repented on the past, and now think of contributing their remaining lives to the democratization movement.

I think Japanese politics is controlled by "justice and humanity."

South Korea is different from Japan, however.

No matter who grasps huge power or bestows favours on the people, once he is criticized by the popular masses, his supporters are to go away from him soon.

Moral and emotional obligations govern south Korean politics.

Important is to judge the situation first-hand.

I can not make any responsible remarks unless I am inside the motherland and locate what the popular masses call for and wish.

My return to the homeland is not only for the struggle but for seeking dialogue with "president" Chon.

Recently, I formally offered the four-party talks among "three Kims" and Chon Du Hwan.

I've heard that my talks offer has produced not a little repercussions.

My fundamental position is to settle the problem through dialogue with Chon Du Hwan.

It can not be helped if Chon is determined to put me in prison upon my arrival in Seoul.

Important is that I am with the people, in other words, my return itself is to be a powerful message to the south Korean people.

S. Korea's Democratization Movement Boosted

Opposition Party President Attacks Feb. 12 "Elections"

The president of the "Nationalist Party", an opposition party, assailed the slated "general elections" for mid-February, the south Korean paper Dong-A Ilbo reported.

He said, "the ruling party vociferates about a fair election but practises fraud by dint of power and money the moment they turn on their heels," while addressing the regional conference for the reorganization of the party in Changsong, South Cholla Province.

Another figure of the party also said, "the present regime of Democratic Justice Party is alienated so far from the people during the last four years in power that front and back gates of its headquarters building have to be guarded by combat ready police."

Dissident Group Demand To Join N-S Dialogue

The National Council for Democracy and Unification, a south Korean organization for democracy, on Jan. 7 issued a statement in which it put 17-point demand vis-a-vis the south Korean authorities, the south Korean paper Chosun Ilbo reported on Jan. 8.

The statement declared that "'national assembly' elections' to be carried out under the present law" which guarantees the long-term office of Chon Du Hwan are "meaningless."

It, in particular, strongly called for the "participation of opposition figures in the north-south dialogue."

14 Prominent Figures Gather for Democracy

Fourteen south Korean people speaking at a meeting held at a Christian Memorial Hall in Seoul on Jan. 7 manifested their determination to fight for democracy in society and the peaceful reunification of the country, AP recently reported from Seoul.

These attended the meeting included religionists the Rev. Ham Sok Hon and Chi Hak Sun, Poet Ko Un, and professors and lawyers.

They urged the Chon junta to guarantee the safety of Kim Dae Jung if he returned from the United States.

In a wide-ranging exchange on the state of democracy in south Korean society they appealed to the people a struggle for a "free press, democracy and the peaceful reunification of the Korean Peninsula."

They also urged the lifting of a "government" blacklist that still bars 15 people from taking part in politics and includes both Kim Dae Jung and Kim Yong Sam.

The DPR of Korea Seen by Norodom Sihanouk (16)

(Continued from the previous issue)

Pyongyang becomes animated in April when light pink azaleas, cleared of their plastic cover, are in full bloom.

Between the high TV tower and the yellow-brown silhouette of the statue of Chollima, a winged horse, was seen the beacon symbolic of the immortal Juche idea aglow with the golden sun rays, while the white frame of the Arch of Triumph stood out against the dim evening sky.

Pyongyang at night glowed with the varicolored gleam of fountains and the illuminations at the high-rise buildings and monuments.

There are many places of pilgrimage for those who are interested in the Korean art and culture. Such are the Korean Revolution Museum, the Korean Central History Museum, the Korean Art Gallery, the Party Founding Museum, the Victorious Fatherland Liberation War Museum.

Great significance is attached to culture. Above all mention should be made of Kim Il Sung University, a large-scale cadre training centre, built on Ryongnam Hill.

When the university was founded, it had 24 chairs and 7 faculties including those of letters, engineering, agronomy, medicine, and law. In 1948 faculties of agronomy, medicine and engineering were separated from the university to form agricultural, medical and technological universities respectively.

Today the DPRK has over 170 universities.

Kim Il Sung University occupies an area of over 1.5 million square metres and has a floor space of over 300,000 square metres.

The university has 13 faculties, over 80 chairs, 50 research rooms and 8 institutes. It has 12,000 students in 600 classes and the teaching staff of over 3,500.

It must be borne in mind that "intellectualization of the whole society" constitutes one aspect of the content of the "three revolutions".

As President Kim Il Sung said, the ultimate goal of the intellectualization of the whole society is "to raise the cultural and intellectual level of all members of society to that of college graduate so as to obliterate the difference between mental and physical labour left over from the old society and bring about the complete equality of the working people."

Cultural work in the DPRK is carried on not only by schools or universities, but also by students and children's palaces (See above-mentioned material) in the capital and localities, the University of National Economy, the February 8 House of Culture, Chollima House of Culture, the People's Palace of Culture, the magnificent Grand People's Study House and other numerous cultural institutions which make up an integral whole along with projected ones.

In Pyongyang there are the Pyongyang Grand Theatre, Mansudae Art Theatre, and other theatres, cinema houses, play grounds, the famous Kim Il Sung Stadium, Pyongyang Indoor Stadium, Ice Rink and other stadiums and Circus, and Health Complex where people can display their talents.

EVEN IN LOCALITIES

All the conveniences offered to capital citizens are also found in villages, towns and cities in localities. Almost all the cities were rebuilt. Former cities were levelled to the ground in bombing. To our surprise, we could not find traces of the past but some buildings which were carefully restored in the former style.

Newly-erected buildings are aesthetically refined and harmonious. Pavilions of Korean style dispersed in the city are in good harmony with buildings with mosaic, granite or tile-faced facade.

Many industries sprang up in localities. This is related with the officially declared stand as to building factories in rural areas and narrowing down the distinction between town and country to the maximum.

Agricultural production in itself is diversified. Paddies and maize fields are properly distributed in the countryside. Maize is cultivated by bedding out seedlings grown in the plastic-covered beds.

Vegetable gardens were seen to stretch up to orchards. Fertilizer factories and agricultural machine plants or tractor assembly plants had their greenhouse. We visited the Kumsong Tractor Plant and other places.

THE KUMSONG TRACTOR PLANT: FROM TRACTOR NO. 1 TO 30,000 TRACTORS PER YEAR

Kiyang lies about 30 kilometres to the southwest of Pyongyang. There, surrounded by hills, was a small chemical factory which for the most part was destroyed in the war.

Since September 1954 President Kim Il Sung has visited this plant on 36 occasions and given directions more than 600 times. He suggested that hoes, threshers and other farm machines should be produced.

In November 1958 the first tractor of Korean make "Chollima" No. 1 was turned out.

There were difficulties at the beginning. Korea had no blueprints, machines, equipment nor technicians.

In 1960, 3,000 tractors marched off the assembly line and in 1963 the first caterpillar tractor was produced.

In November 1971 a new campaign for increased production was launched to meet increasing demand. Automatic lines were devised and introduced by the Korean people. Today the plant produces 30,000 tractors a year and exports some of them to the Asian, African and other countries.

There are different types of 28 hp "Chollima" and 75 hp "Pungnyon" tractors which are adaptable for various use: excavator, carrier, threshing combine or bulldozer.

Sustained efforts are directed to automation, automatic control and automatic assembly line control in particular. The plant has shop, dining room, barber's shop, club, hospital, rest home, creche and kindergarten.

A technical school and evening training center are run for all to study technique.

Thus, the Kumsong Tractor Plant is greatly making for the modernization of agriculture.

Korean Paintings "Spring" by Cho Jong Yo, 1980.

HARBOUR FACILITIES

The first strong impression produced by Pyongyang, local cities and countryside is that there are multitude of public buildings, monuments and facilities compared with the size of the country and its population.

A high-ranking official explained us: "We always work looking forward to the country's reunification. Pyongyang was designed as the capital of the entire Korea. We should not only meet out own needs but also provide for the day when our coutnry will be reunified."

The DPRK, a country rich in natural resources, does its best to develop them to the full. Even a patch of sizable land is cultivated in this country where mountains occupy two-thirds of its territory. As a result, Korea exports not only *insam* but a number of processed agricultural goods, rice and maize.

Harbour facilities were planned to ensure brisk overseas trade. This is proved by Nampo port which we had a chance to visit.

NAMPO, AN INTERNATIONAL PORT

Nampo port is a gateway to the ocean, to the West Sea of Korea and the world. Today Nampo wharf is over 50 kilometres away from the capital has changed into a modern large city with the population of more than 500,000.

In recent years vast projects were undertaken to extend and modernize the quay, accommodate tourists and build dwelling houses.

Cement is one of principal export goods along with anthracite, steel and grain. In this view, the new quays were fitted with four large belt conveyers which send cement bags from silos to the cargo ship by remote control.

At the edge of the port is seen five-storeyed up-to-date general command tower. Necessary directions are given by telephones and wireless and all operations are observed on TV screen.

All these successes were entirely attained by the efforts of the engineers and technicians of Korea.

Besides, we saw scores of new buildings erected along the coast, of which some were already inhabited and the others nearing completion.

These buildings of bright colours were sited according to the city plan. We could find that aesthetic consideration was given to them.

The working people of this city are enjoying their holidays in the villas on the pine-covered hillsides facing sea and isles, which present a fascinating scenery.

We make a round of this place dotted restaurants, shops, public catering services and beach protected by a sea wall and the diving board.

On the seaside were a big well-furnished hotel and a restaurant of a world standard now under construction.

Tourists and foreign sailors enjoy tasteful seafood dishes at the restaurants and hotels. Particularly, shellfish dish is popular among them.

Well-patronized shops offer souvenirs and Korean specialities—well-known *insam* and books, postal cards, records, cassettes, perfume, dolls, cloth, wine and liquor.

At the instance of President Kim Il Sung, great efforts are being exerted to make Nampo fulfil its mission is an international port in the near future.

TOURISM OF GOOD PROSPECT

Tourism, no doubt, offers a very promising prospect for the DPRK. This country which many foreign visitors compare to Switzerland and Austria has mountains and coasts of exceptional scenery. Situated at the same latitude with Europe, Korea has temperate climate moderated by maritime influence.

There are a lot of tourist show places and rest houses from Mt. Paekdu rising to a height of 2,750 metres at the northernmost tip of the country, across Mt. Myohyang celebrated for scenic beauties in the middle part to sandy beach of Wonsan in the east.

(Continued on page 7)

Koreans Here Welcome Presidential Proposal

Responding to the nation-saving proposal and new year tasks defined by President Kim Il Sung in the new year message, Koreans from various strata gathered at the Korean Cultural Hall in Tokyo on Jan. 10 for a central meeting of Koreans in Japan.

At the meeting Li Jin Gyu, First vice-Chairman of Chongryun, the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, delivered a keynote speech.

Last year, Mr. Li noted, the DPRK made all efforts at the peaceful solution of Korean question as seen in the 3-way talks offer between north, the U.S., and south

The successful delivery of northern relief goods to the south Korean flood victims was of significance for opening new north-south dialogue, the First vice-Chairman stated. Thus, north-south economic talks and Red Cross talks came into being.

Adding that north-south talks should lead to the realization of reunification, all the Korean people's paramount desire, he stressed the importance of developing north-south dialogue onto high-level political talks expounded in the President Kim Il Sung's nation-saving proposal, and expressed full support for it in the name of 700,000 Korean compatriots in Japan.

But the north-south dialogue cannot smoothly proceed without a firm guarantee for peace, he said.

The resident Korean official charged the U.S. and south Korean authorities with aggravating the situation on the Korean Peninsula with a plan to stage the large-scale "Team Spirit 85" joint military exercise this year from Feb. 1 to the middle of April mobilizing 200,000 troops in the area along the DMZ and different parts of south Korea targeted at the DPRK.

This military drill, the Chongryun official said, justified the northern decision to postpone 8th round of the north-south Red Cross talks and 2nd round of north-south economic talks.

Li Jin Gyu strongly urged Washington and Seoul to cancel the "Team Spirit 85" plan and affirmatively respond to the tripartite talk's proposal.

In a portion on Chongryun activity, Mr. Li, evaluating the successes which Chongryun produced last year in its activity, encouraged the Korean residents to make further efforts to produce a new momentum in their movement in 1985.

This year, we will meet 40th anniversary of Korean Liberation and 40th birthday of the Worker's Party of Korea and 30th birthday of founding of its organization, the First vice-Chairman noted.

At the gathering, he proposed the following tasks: 1) strengthening the Chongryun organization under the guidance of the president and the young leader; 2) defending the rights of Korean residents in Japan; 3) developing democratic national education; 4) making effort for the realization of reunification under the banner of anti-U.S. democratization policy and nation-saving proposal offered by President Kim Il Sung; strengthening solidarity ties with Japanese and world peace-loving peoples.

A central meeting of Korenas in Japan was held at the Korean Cultural Hall in Tokyo on Jan. 10.

(Continued from page 6)

The DPRK is crisscrossed by paved roads and comfortable railway network from east to west and from north to south.

Located in Kangwon Province, Mt. Kumgang with about 12,000 peaks, rocks of fantastic formation, waterfalls, lakes, rare animals and plants, presents a superb scenery. It is called "Diamond Mountain" and has inspired a number of painters and artists. Many pavilions and rest homes have been arranged for the holiday-makers along with house of culture, restaurants, hotels, spa, souvenir shop and mountaineering and travel outfit stores. Mountain path has been arranged as long as 40 kilometres along with suspension bridges spanning gorges.

For a tourist spot for summer, I recommend Changgun Peak of Mt. Paekdu rising to a height of 2,750 metres and majestic Lake Chon. This lake is the source of rivers Amnok and Tuman which flow into the West and East Seas of Korea respectively. The mountain is the old battle site of the anti-Japanese struggle.

The pictorial *Korea* translated into various languages shows us "curiosities" every month. Such is gingko of Kumya, a giant tree at Tonghung-ri, Kumya Country, South Hambyong Province. This "previous natural product" is 1460 years old. It is 4.8 metres across, 16 metres around in its base and 40 metres high.

Pyongyang has many hotels and restaurants of world standard. Such are Pyongyang, Taedonggang, Moranbong, Potonggang, Changgwangsan, Haebangsan hotels. There are large restaurants such as Okryu Restaurant on the shore of the Taedong River and Chongryu Restaurant on the Potong River. Tourists can avail themselves of big Department Store No. 1 besides shops for the foreign visitors and residents in the DPRK. Shops, in general, have plenty of custom and the arrangement of the interior is agreeable and rational. And smile was on everyone's face.

(To be continued)

30th Anniversary of Korean Scientific and Educational Film Studio

The Korean Scientific and Educational Film Studio celebrated the 30th anniversary of its founding.

President Kim Il Sung founded the studio on January 10, 1985, with a deep insight into the important role of the scientific and educational films, even in the difficult period following the U.S. provoked three-year war which reduced everything to ashes.

The main duty of the film studio is to produce scientific, educational and juvenile films conductive to equipping working people with scientific and technical knowledge and rearing the rising new generation as Juche-type communist revolutionaries.

It has inside and outside locations and various shooting, recording and editing facilities, modern, automated and remote controlled.

It produced its first scientific film "Taking Care of Seeds and Their Treatment." It has since put out many scientific and juvenile films helpful to the development and progress of the country and th education and upbringing of younger generation.

Last year its creative staffs created many films including scientific films "Synthetic Resin and Its Use"; "Comprehensive Mechanisation of Rice Farming" and "Fertility of Soil and Crops", the educational film "An Orchard in Park" and juvenile films "A Hedgehog That Defeated a Tiger" and "A Badger and Wolf"

By creating successful scientific films and juvenile films of high ideological and artistic value in the past period the creators and artists of the studio have made a big contribution to carrying out the ideological, technical and cultural revolutions and educating and bringing up the rising generation.

The scientific film "Let Us Protect Profit-Giving Birds" and many other films are popular in the world.

A meeting celebrating its thirtieth birthday was held in Pyongyang on January 11.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea sent a congratulatory message to its creators, artists and workers.

OLD TALE

Dal Nyo and Deer (1)

Once upon a time there was a wicked, greedy landlord in a village. Suddenly he had a bad eye trouble and could not see well. He took all sorts of medicine, but of no avail.

"My God! What shall I do? How can I amass fortune if I cannot see the ledger and cadastre? "

The landlord writhed and clutched his chest in anxiety.

One day he heard a rumour that there was a mysterious spring in Mt. Juniper which cured blind eyes. He called Dal Nyo, his maid, and ordered her to go to Mt. Juniper right away and bring some water of the spring.

From then onward Dal Nyo wondered about the mountain every day, pricked and bruised by thorny bushes. But, however hard she tried, she could not find the mysterious spring.

As she returned empty-handed each time, the landlord got mad and beat her mercilessly. He asked her to tell where she had been idling away her time.

Her whipped eyes were bruised and dark and blood flowed out of the apples. Her sparkling eyes lost lustre. The landlord kicked the blinded maid out of his house.

Dal Nyo picked her steps with great difficulty to her home where her ailing father lived. But she bumped against a zelkova tree on the bank of the Willow River. She squatted down on her hams and wept and wept. At this moment somebody approached her with a springy gait. She was scared and jumped to her feet.

"Don't get scared, my girl. I'm a deer. Don't cry and tell me what happened. Perhaps I can render help."

The animal spoke in a rather tender tone of voice. The girl told grievously about the great wrong done to her by the landlord. The deer trembled in rage. It helped her up to her feet and said: "Let's go, my girl. I'll help you to recover your eyesight." The kind-hearted animal left the place, carrying the blind girl on its back. It walked on and on until it reached the spring over which a silvery mist was spreading out.

"Here we are at the mysterious spring in Mt. Juniper. I'm the only one who knows this place."

The deer seated Dal Nyo on the top of a smooth rock and scooped a gourdful of the water and let her drink it. And it washed her bruised face and body. The pain all over her body was gone instantly and she felt as if she were on wings. Now, the deer washed her eyes.

"Can you see? "

Dal Nyo made no reply.

"How cruelly he beat her!"

The deer gritted its teeth burning with hatred for the landlord. It laid the girl on the rock. It opened her eyes and put some drops of the water repeatedly. Presently the girl blinked her eyes and sprang to her feet.

"I can see, Deer. I can see now!"

Dal Nyo jumped about in glee. She was choked in gratitude to the benefactor. The deer saw her off at the entrance of the valley and told her that when she wanted to see it, they could meet under the zelkova tree on the Willow River.

The rumour about Dal Nyo's recovery of eyesight spread at once across the whole village and reached the ears of the landlord, too. He rushed to Dal Nyo and bluntly ordered her to let him know where the spring was. Dal Nyl glared at the man for a long while before she went back into the house without word, shutting the door with a bang. She could not let him know the whereabouts of the mysterious spring because he had crippled her father and caused the death of her mother and, sometime ago, even blinded her.

The wicked landlord was so infuriated that his fleshy cheeks convulsed uglily.

"You hateful hussy, wait and see."

The landlord came home gasping in fury. The more he thought of her, the more he was gripped in passion. "How dare that little hussy refuse my order—"

He spent a wakeful night. He pondered over this or that plan before he hit a good idea. He slapped his thigh and rose to his feet, happily excited.

The next day she was forced to go over to the landlord's to serve as his maid for her sick father. Her family were heavily in debt to the landlord. Dal Nyl had to spend weary days as before. But she did not know what sort of plot the landlord was hatching.

(To be continued)

Amnesty International Report 1984 (South Korea)

Here are excerpts from "Amnesty International Report 1984" concerning south Korea:

(The report covers the period January to December 1983)

Amnesty International remained concerned about the detention of prisoners of conscience, reports of torture and unfair trials and the use of the death penalty. Amnesty International was also concerned about widespread arrests of students and the use of short-term detention without charge and house arrest against students and other critics of the government. Several long-term prisoners of conscience, some detained since 1971, remained in detention. Some 306 political prisoners, including 73 adopted by Amnesty International as personers of conscience, were released in presidential amnesties in August and December. Torture reportedly continued to take place and confessions said to have been obtained under torture were allegedly used as prosecution evidence. Death sentences were imposed for criminal offences and legislation was passed to provide the death penalty for some economic crimes. The President commuted three death sentences in political cases.

Students arrested for holding anti-government demonstrations or distributing anti-government leaflets continued to constitute the majority of prisoners of conscience. Most demonstrations were peaceful, although the police often used tear-gas to break them up and scuffles took place while participants were being arrested. More than 300 students were arrested during the year and prosecuted under the Law on Assemblies and Demonstrations (LAD) which prohibits gatherings "feared to trigger social unrest". Those who were tried before the end of 1983 were sentenced to between one and three years' imprisonment. More than 200 students were released under presidential amnesties on 12 August 1983 and 23 December 1983. Many hand nearly completed their sentences. In announcing the 23 December amnesty, the authorities said that students still detained would be released if they "repented".

In February 1983, 19 students were detained for up to three weeks in Seoul and questioned about documents analyzing South Korean society which they had allegedly prepared. One student, Chung Chin-tae, was subsequently charged with anti-state activities under the National Security Law (NSL) and sentenced to three years' imprisonment. Amnesty International considered him to be a prisoner of conscience.

Several well-known political or religious personalities were put under house arrest or detained, some without warrant, for short periods for expressing their non-violent political views. The Reverend Koh Young-keun was detained on 25 February 1983 for delivering a sermon entitled "Let Us Establish Justice", in which he questioned the legitimacy of the government and criticized the death sentences imposed on Moon Pu-shik and Kim Hyong-jang in the Pusan arson case (see below). Charges brought against him on 1 March were later dropped and he was released on 7 April 1983. Several people were reportedly taken into custody and threatened with arrest on charges relating to distribution of copies of his sermon.

On 16 May 1983, Kim Young-sam, a former leader of the banned opposition New Democratic Party (NDP) who had been held under house arrest since June 1982, gave a press interview in which he called for the release of people imprisoned for criticizing the government. Two days later, he went on hunger-strike to demand the restoration of democracy in the Republic of Korea (South Korea). On 25 May 1983, the police forcibly removed him from his home to hospital where he was placed in solitary confinement. Ten former members of the NDP, several members of the Human Rights Committee of the Korea National Council of Churches and other leading dissidents, including the Reverend Moon Ik-hwan, Quaker leader Ham Sok-hon, Dr Lee Moon-young, lawyer Hong Nam-soon former National Assembly member Yeh Choon-ho, all previously adopted by Amnesty International as prisoners of conscience, were placed under house arrest for expressing support for Kim's demands. All were released from house arrest by mid-June 1983.

Torture reportedly continued to take place and confessions said to have been obtained under torture were allegedly used as prosecution evidence.

Students arrested for holding anti-government demonstrations or distributing anti-government leaflets continued to constitute the majority or prisoners of conscience. Most demonstrations were peaceful, although the police often used tear-gas to break them up and scuffles took place while participants were being arrested.

At the end of August 1983, up to 500 teachers and university students were reportedly detained without warrant for periods ranging from several days to several weeks and interrogated by the police about their involvement with workers' night schools sponsored by local churches. They were reportedly forced to state, allegedly under torture, that their activities were aimed at building a socialist society. Kim Han-jo was held for three weeks in September 1983 at the National Police Headquarters in Seoul. She was interrogated about her previous work with night schools and her involvement in a research project directed by the Christian Institute for the Study of Justice and Development which examined the presentation of the issue of Korean unification in government textbooks. Eight other school-teachers involved in the project were detained from mid-December to 30 December 1983. On 30 and 31 December, four others connected with the project were detained: Kang Man-kil, a former Professor at Korea University in Seoul; Lee Tae-young, Associate Professor at Hanyang University in Seoul; and the Director and a member of staff of the institute – the Reverend Cho Seung-hyuk and Lee Mi-kyung. They were said to face charges under the NSL of supporting the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea). Both Professor Lee and the Reverend Cho had previously been adopted by Amnesty International as prisoners of conscience.

Amnesty International also continued to investigate the detention of Kim Hyong-jang in connection with an arson attack on the United States Cultural Centre in Pusan in March 1982. The organization believed that he may have been imprisoned for his political views and that the charge that he had incited people to commit arson was false. He reportedly claimed that his confession admitting the charges, which was used as evidence at his trial, had been obtained under torture. Kim Hyong-jang and another defendant, Moon Pu-shik, were sentenced to death in August 1982. Amnesty International appealed for the commutation of the sentences. On 15 March 1983 President Chun Doo-hwan commuted the sentences to life imprisonment.

Amnesty International continued to appeal for the immediate and unconditional release of the prisoners of conscience Soh Sung and his brother Soh Joon-shik, who were arrested in 1971 reportedly because of their involvement in student demonstrations during the presidential elections. Soh Sung was sentenced to life imprisonment. Soh Joon-shik's seven-year term of imprisonment expired in May 1978. His appeal against his continued detention under the Public Security Law was rejected by the Seoul High Court on 30 May 1983. Among the other long-term prisoners of concern to Amnesty International was Dr. Lee Sung-hee, one of 17 members of the National Council for the Defence of Democracy, an informal opposition group, arrested in March 1974 and sentenced to life imprisonment for espionage. Amnesty International continued to investigate his case as it was concerned that Dr. Lee may have been wrongly convicted and imprisoned for his non-Dr. Lee may have been wrongly convicted and imprisoned for his non-violent political opinions.

Amnesty International continued to appeal for the release of prisoners convicted under the NSL of being members of an anti-state organization, *Aram-hoe*, and of plotting rebellion. They were arrested in August 1981 and claimed at their trial that they had been tortured into signing false confessions. They were later acquitted by an appellate court on the grounds of insufficient prosecution evidence, but in October 1982 the Supreme Court overruled the appellate court's decision and returned the case for retrial. On 21 June 1983 the Seoul High Court sentenced them to between 18 months' and 10 years' imprisonment. Amnesty International believed that the charges brought against them were false and that they had been imprisoned for their non-violent political beliefs.

Another case of continuing concern to Amnesty International was that of eight teachers at Kunsan Number One High School and a former teacher working for a broadcasting company in Kunsan who were detained in November 1982 on charges under the NSL of forming an "anti-state" organization, the "Five Pines Society", in April 1982. At their trial they admitted that they held views critical of the government, but denied that they had supported communist ideology or praised North Korea. They also claimed in court that they had been tortured and threatened with death during interrogation to force them to sign false confessions. Chongju District Court sentenced them to terms of between one and four years' imprisonment, suspended for six of the defendants. In July 1983, the Kwangju High Court reversed the decision and imposed sentences of between one and seven years' imprisonment on all of the defendants.

Nine officials of the Wuongpoong Textile Company Union were sentenced by the Seoul District Court in April and May 1983 to terms of imprisonment ranging from 10 to 18 months. They had been arrested in November 1982 under the LAD for protesting against the violent harassment of union members by other company employees. Amnesty International considered them to be prisoners of conscience. All were released in the August 1983 amnesty.

Other prisoners of conscience released in the 12 August presidential amnesty were two trade unionists at Korea Control Data; Father Choi Ki-sik, arrested in the Pusan arson case; 10 students and workers arrested in the Kwangminsa case; seven defendants from the Pusan Good Books Association *(Purim)* case; three defendants in the Hanul Bible Study Group case; and Lee Jae-oh, arrested in the South Korean National Liberation Front (SKNLF) case. Among those released in the 23 December amnesty were students arrested for participating in campus demonstrations and others convicted of violations of the NSL, including defendants from the SKNLF, *Purim* (see *Amnesty International Report 1983*) and *Aram-hoe* cases. In the August 1983 amnesty, Lee Tae-bok had his life sentence commuted to 20 years', and Park Ki-rae's death sentence, imposed 1974, was commuted to life imprisonment.

Torture reportedly continued to be used against people suspected of both political and ordinary criminal offences. After the death in March1983 of Kim Kun-jo from brain injuries caused by beatings during interrogation by police, the National Police Headquarters in Seoul issued a statement in which it said it regretted the incident and would take measures to prevent further police brutality. In December 1983 the National Assembly passed an amendment to the Law on Weighted Penalty for Special Crimes which would provide for a maximum term of life imprisonment for law enforcement officials convicted of torturing and killing criminal suspects. The authorities did not reply to requests by Amnesty International for claims of torture made in several political cases to be independently investigated.

In spite of measures taken to remedy the shortage of medical staff in prisons and the discretionary power of prison directors to transfer prisoners to hospital when necessary, several prisoners of conscience reportedly received inadequate medical care after they were said to be suffering from the effects of torture or were ill as a result of their conditions of detention. Choi Sok-jin, sentenced to life imprisonment in the SKNLF case of 1979, was admitted to a hospital in early February 1983 with a kidney infection. He was returned to prison four days later. Amnesty International continued to receive reports that he was sick and not receiving adequate medical care (see *Amnesty International Report 1983*).

Amnesty International learned of several death sentences imposed or upheld for criminal charges and appealed to the authorities to commute all death sentences.

The organization was concerned that the National Assembly passed bills in mid-December 1983 to provide the death penalty for economic crimes such as fraud and embezzlement, thereby increasing the number of offences punishable by the death penalty.

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